

Fine Fellows Awarded 25 Year Recognition Award



"It is a pleasant feeling that peers have recognised an appropriate award for the years of service given to the industry in various capacities given by many. I am very pleased to have received it." Allan said.



Ian Fletcher FAIP

Ian Fletcher FAIP, has been a member of the AIP since 1975 and has been a strong volunteer at both state and national level for many years. Having recently received Life Membership to the institute Ian's contribution has been exemplary.

When asked where his packaging life began Ian advise that he was 'transported' to Australia while working with Coates Bros (printing ink makers) and his first job outside of Coates was with Comalco Can Co making aluminium drawn and ironed cans.

"In those days we tried to sell the most quantity (thickness, weight) of our product to achieve the end purpose of the packaging (fitness for use) - we did not consider "light weighting" - in fact the word did not exist," Ian said.

"One of the biggest changes I have seen over the years to the industry is the means of communicating - mobile phones, the Internet, emails and computers - so that the speed of information flow is completely different - think snail mail many years ago!"

"Receiving the 25 year award is a recognition by our peers of our time in the industry's peak technical body." he said.



Michael Halley FAIP

Michael Halley FAIP has been a member of the AIP since 1973 and has penned more articles on the Institute than anyone! The man behind some fabulous event wrap ups, technical articles and detailed history on the institute Michael is never lost for words!

"I became involved in Packaging in the sixties with the Victorian Railways loss and damage prevention team (then called Claims Prevention). All freight was regulated to rail and railways were Common Carriers under the Law. Common Carriers' have two rates of freight one Owners' Risk and the other at the carriers' risk which is applicable if it is packaged according to their standards. So it was our job to develop standards and deliberate upon damage instances as well as supervise loading and handling practices," Michael said.

"In my early days we at the railways worked with industry to change the packaging of white goods from wooden cases or crates to fibreboard boxes. The removal of dividers in cartons of beer and the development of shrink wrapped slabs and change from steel to aluminium cans are challenges I recall as well as the development of plastics drums and smaller bottles. Imagine pallets of dishwashing liquid in quart plastic bottles that had failed along the die line BEFORE leaving the factory,"

"I think palletising and other methods of making unit loads are standout systems that have reduced loss and damage both to goods and people. The international container has probably had the most productive outcome allowing less packaging and new systems to be introduced,"

"I am pleased that in some way my efforts have been acknowledged by my peers but just having survived for over a quarter of a century is not really a good criteria!" Michael said.

AIP Fellows Ian Fletcher, Allan Kenny and Michael Halley were the latest recipients of the new 25 year award for the Institute. Between them they have contributed over 112 years of service to the AIP and all three have provided outstanding and significant contribution to the Institute. With Distinguished Service Awards, Life membership and now the 25 years of service award they have collectively received almost every award possible! Without people like Ian, Allan and Michael and the tremendous hours of volunteering their time over many decades the AIP would not be what it is today. They are a fine group of people who we admire and the award recognises what they have contributed to AIP. The AIP National Board not only extends their sincerest congratulations to Ian, Allan and Michael but also thanks them for their on-going contribution to the success of the institute.

For those of you who have not met Ian, Allan and Michael we thought we should share a brief history on who they are...



Allan Kenny FAIP

Allan Kenny has been a member of the AIP since 1967 and has been an active committee member in the Victorian Branch for many years.

Allan advised that he began his Packaging Career as part of his job in the Purchasing Department at Kraft a couple of years after starting in 1963. "Initially as time permitted from my job as records clerk I started to create Graphic Designs for the Corrugated shippers. This was all hand drawn - no frills stuff in those days. Over the next couple of years I progressed into the functional designs of every type of packaging material that Kraft used, from glass jars and closures, through flexible wrappers to metal cans and closures and chipboard cartons & corrugated shippers. In those days the design function was mainly managed and created by the end user - a far cry from where it is today with the manufacturer responsible for this function," Allan said.

"My first job in the industry really was in the purchasing function of some of the packaging materials and packaging line equipment in use most of which was developed by Kraft engineering in conjunction with major manufacturers," "The changes in the industry since I started, have been huge, with materials in Packaging becoming much more sophisticated, light weighting in rigid materials, nano technology being used to create new functional materials are but a few of the changes,"